



National Directorate General for Disaster Management

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**National Report 2009-2011
of Hungary
on the
Progress on the Implementation of the Hyogo
Framework for Action**

Signed

Signed

**Secretary of the
ISDR /National Disaster Prevention Forum**

**National Focal Point of
ISDR /National Disaster Prevention Forum**

Budapest, May 2011.

„Prevention and protection against disasters is a national cause ... every citizen and person has the right to learn about the disaster risk in his or her surroundings, to acquire the guiding rules of protection against them, and it is his or her right and obligation to participate in the protection against disasters.”

(Section 1 of the Act No. LXXIV of 1999 on the Direction and Organization of Protection against Disasters and on the Protection against Major Accidents involving Hazardous Materials.)

PREAMBLE

Hungary takes into consideration the UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR) adopted by the World Conference and the efforts to reduce disaster risk.

„The concept and practice of reducing disaster risks through systematic efforts to analyse and manage the causal factors of disasters, including through reduced exposure to hazards, lessened vulnerability of people and property, wise management of land and the environment, and improved preparedness for adverse events”

/UN ISDR Terminology on Disaster Risk Reduction (2009)/

The National Review summarize the efforts, made between 2009-2011 by the National Directorate General for Disaster Management of the Ministry of the Interior, as the national focal point of ISDR, in order to reduce adverse effects of disasters.

Part A

- Cover Note -

Reporting organization	National Directorate General for Disaster Management (NDGDM), Ministry of the Interior Hungary
Scope of organization's mandate (e.g. national authority for disaster, NGO network)	Official national authority for disaster management in Hungary
Country, region, or other area being reported on	Reporting on the efforts being made towards HFA in Hungary
Reporting on own organization or on behalf of others – please state	Reporting on the activities on NDGDM, completed by the actions of members of the National ISDR Platform (<i>see below</i>)
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Part B

- Summary Analysis -

National Context

Institutional background of disaster management in Hungary

In Hungary the National Directorate General for Disaster Management (NDGDM) is the competent and responsible organization for maintaining disaster management tasks on a national level. NDGDM functions under the supervision of the Ministry of the Interior. NDGDM as professional disaster management authority was established by merging the fire-service and the civil protection organization in 2000. It coordinates the operation of the organizations and persons taking part in the protection against industrial, natural and other disasters.

The role of the Government is very important and primarily operational in disaster management. In case the legal conditions prevail, the Government may declare the state of emergency and may take extraordinary measures.

The current legislative framework of the protection against disasters are the Constitution of the Republic of Hungary, the Act on Home Defense, the Act on Civil Protection and the Act on the Protection against Fire, Rescue Operations and the Fire-Service. Based on the above, the Hungarian Parliament enacted Act No. LXXIV of 1999 on the direction and organization of the protection against disasters and on the protection against major accidents involving hazardous materials (hereinafter: Act on Disaster Management) in 1999. The Parliament enacted this Act in order to establish and operate a uniform direction system of prevention of natural and man-made disasters threatening life, safety of property, natural and built environment and to determine the fundamental tasks of reconstruction.

The lessons learnt in the past ten years highlighted the necessity of major changes in the regulation in the structure of disaster management in order to cope with the changing and increasing challenges of the XXI. century. The losses caused by inland water and floods, as well as the devastation of the never seen before red sludge disaster in October 2010 also pointed out this necessity.

The review of the legislation began in 2010, with wide-range public consultation in order to enhance and rationalize the organization structure and improve the ability of the authorities and civil organizations to reduce disaster risk. For this reason 44 new acts were initiated, the expected result are as follows:

- a) The development of more efficient protection against major accidents related to hazardous materials.
- b) Strengthening the protection of population.
- c) Strengthening the role of civil protection and the development of the cooperation with civil protection organizations.
- d) Increase the effectiveness of disaster management.

- e) Enhance the effectiveness of fire protection system, in the frame of these changes professional municipal fire brigades will be transferred from the authority of local governments to the state, namely NDGDM.

In addition, organization structure of NDGDM has been significantly modified. As a result, the Inspectorate for Fire Service and the Inspectorate for Civil Protection were set up within NDGDM. These can perform their inspection activities on a more advanced professional level than before. Goal of NDGDM is to modernize the system of preparedness, prevention, and defense management, in order to enhance the efficiency of public safety. To achieve this goal it's necessary to develop stronger cooperation between different national sectors. The tasks of the different sectors relating to disaster management is coordinated by the Government Coordination Committee (hereinafter: GCC) chaired by the Minister of the Interior.

The GCC has 13 Protection Working Committees. The preparation for and the protection against the most often occurring hazards are administered by these committees. The elaboration of the National Strategy on the Protection against the Impacts of Disasters and the Annual National Plan for Prevention and Preparation are also the duty of the GCC.

Disasters do not respect borders, so international cooperation and assistance is a must. The organizing principle in the field of our international work is solidarity. Therefore, we are committed to co-operate cross-border, bilaterally, between regions and international organizations, such as the EU, UN and NATO primarily. As regards **international organizations**, our links with the EU and NATO are of paramount importance. Within the EU, we are the notified national contact point to several community instruments, such as the EU Civil Protection Mechanism and its Monitoring and Information Centre, as well as the European Programme for Critical Infrastructure Protection. The Civil Emergency Planning activities within NATO are of similarly significance.

Besides these, our excellent cooperation with the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and International Strategy for Disaster Reduction as well as with other international organizations like the Regional Cooperation Council Disaster Preparedness and prevention Initiative and the Visegrád 4, as the most important regional cooperation should be highlighted.

As regards international assistance, both in terms of offering and receiving assistance, the point of contact is the Department for International Relations and Legal Affairs.

1. Following the official request to EU MIC, the Hungarian Government decided to offer a medical rescue team (with 6 members), in order to provide humanitarian aid for the earthquake stricken Haiti. The team travelled to Haiti on 21 January 2010, spent 7 days in Port-au-Prince. They provided medical care for 338 people and distributed medicine for 1980 people.
2. During the summer of 2010 Hungary offered technical assistance to flood stricken Romania, e.g. power-generators and pumps in order to mitigate the losses.
3. In the first half of 2011 Hungary holds the Presidency of the EU Council; the NDGDM is the head of the Working Group No. E.21 (PROCIV) responsible for civil protection issues. Furthermore, during the Hungarian Presidency the NDGDM directs the decision making process at the meetings of the PROCIV. One of the most important responsibilities of the Presidency is that in case of disasters in third countries, the Commission turns to the Presidency first to launch the political coordination, because the Commission is only responsible for operational coordination.

As Hungary presides the EU Council from January until June 2011 the preparation for the presidency started in the beginning of 2008, with the nominating of the presidency team staff, as conclusion 5 members of the Department for International Relations and Legal Affairs of NDGDM was delegated into the PROCIV presidency team. Holding of the presidency of the EU Council the National Directorate General for Disaster Management faces the challenge of being prepared at a higher level, and represents the interests of the entire European community and protects its citizens.

As a result of our work the following priorities of the Hungarian presidency were already adopted by the Council:

1. conclusion on the development of the external dimension of the European Programme for Critical Infrastructure Protection (8454/1/11 REV 1),
2. conclusion on integrated flood management within the European Union (5573/2/11 REV 2),
3. conclusion on Further Developing Risk Assessment for Disaster Management in the European Union (6101/1/11 REV 1)

Major natural hazards in Hungary

The specific and determined geographical localization of a country essentially influences the major natural risks the country has to face. Hungary has an individual location in the middle of the Carpathian Basin, in the catchments area of river Danube and Tisza, therefore its endangerment to disasters is individual as well.

Hungary does not belong to the prioritized endangered regions, however the major natural and civilian risks can be easily outlined according to its geographical location, to the density of the population and settlements, to its industrial and transport structure and to the affects occurring in neighboring countries. Among natural hazards the main concerns are the hydrological endangerment, including floods, inland water risks, endangerment caused by extraordinary weather conditions and by earthquake. Due to its hydrological location, the risk of pollution of live waters is a key issue in Hungary. The basic effect can occur in a high probability abroad, therefore making the preventive measurements, quick response are a bit more difficult.

Main initiatives

All of the nations are responsible for maintaining their sustainable development and for disaster risk reduction. The fact, that disaster reduction is the task of nations and is a national cause it needs to be reinforced, which has to bear a strong institutional basis. Disaster risk awareness of governments and their availability needs to be strengthened and increased continuously. Culture of prevention has to be built out and reinforced, as well as mobilizing adequate sources and carrying out refundable investments. These include risk assessment and early warning investments (monitoring, informing inhabitants). Pro-active measures have to be extended, which will increase the resilience of nations to disasters. These may include rules and regulations, proceedings orders, modernizing of organizational structures. Nations, who assure certain guidelines, legal and institutional frameworks for disaster risk reduction and make efforts to develop these frameworks and keep the track of development with special and measurable indicators, are able to handle risks and emergencies more effective and achieve a widespread social agreement with regard to their measures.

Hungary, bearing in mind its main country risk factors and committed to the Hyogo Framework and to its Declaration has developed and developing disaster risk initiatives in the phases of prevention, response and rehabilitation on a nation, county and local level.

Part C

- Compilation of Information -

Section 1. Hyogo Framework for Action 1: Ensure that disaster risk reduction is a national priority with a strong institutional basis for implementation

- 1. Name of initiative and programme:** *Developing the National Platform for Disaster Reduction*
- 2. Description, objectives, main activities**

1. Updating the current civil protection duty system.

Currently the existing Hungarian rules and regulations on civil protection are under revision and their practical implementation is being assessed. The final objective is to have a more transparent and simple regulating system in accordance to the international and national requirements, which enhances the effectiveness of professional performance.

2. Monitoring and public alarm system for industrial plants.

The system is under preparation and will be completed by 2012. Making use of the most up-to-date information and electronic devices the final objective of the system is to enhance the decision-making process among the emergency management forces. The strengthened decision making processes would substantially improve the protection of the population against major industrial accidents which are recognized as one of the most important threats to the inhabitants of Hungarian cities.

3. Use education to build a culture of safety and resilience.

Currently the further education system for teachers is being reviewed with the objective of modernization. Furthermore, a series of youth disaster management sport competitions has been developed, which will be extended to an international scope in the future.

4. Information management and public awareness.

NDGDM developed a new website, which aims at strengthening the disaster preparedness among the Hungarian population. The information on the website is tailored to different groups of the society. The website functions as a contact point for the population.

5. Strengthening the effectiveness of international urban search and rescue assistance. In 2010 the NDGDM was not in the position to reclassify its Urban Search and Rescue Teams due to the economic situation. In spite of these difficulties the NDGDM in accordance with UN OCHA plans to reclassify its teams in 2012. Until this date the experts are expected to participate in relevant trainings.

3. Results and achievements made, with indicators if available

Almost 30 governmental organizations, NGO's and charitable organizations, private representatives of the scientific sphere and the media joined the Platform. The Hungarian DRR Platform is an initiation of NDGDM, not an individual body, president of the Platform

is the Director General of NDGDM. The Platform is open to any organizations willing to join, in case of accepting the Working Rules of the Platform. The Platform holds its general summit on a yearly basis. In October 2010 due to red sludge disaster in Hungary the yearly meeting of the Platform was postponed.

One of the most valuable achievements of the National Platform, that it keeps all the relevant sectors and organizations updated in the field of DRR and ISDR issues, disseminates the latest information to the members and seek and collect their proposals and suggestions considering DRR related matters in their special field. Thanks to this, DRR related issues reach most of the sectors, therefore a national and multi-sectoral, not only an organization approach can be worked out. In order to assist this work, NDGDM developed and refreshes the database of the Platform members in stated intervals.

4. Major challenges and lessons in implementing the initiative or programme and next steps planned

The red sludge disaster highlighted the importance of cooperation between the critical infrastructure, the economic, and the governmental sectors, and the importance of governmental coordination, and control. The lessons learnt will be priority topic of the National Platform Meeting in 2011.

1. Name of initiative and programme: *Updating the civil protection task system*

2. Description, objectives, main activities

As mentioned above there were significant changes in the organization structure of disaster management. The Inspectorate for Fire Service was set up within NDGDM, which has the responsibility to renew and modernize the fire protection and the fire investigation, in the frame of the restructuring of the organization of the disaster management.

The Inspectorate for Civil Protection was also set up, which centrally coordinates the prevention and preparedness, response and recovery-reconstruction tasks relating civil protection.

Furthermore cooperation with the voluntary organizations and NGOs was also strengthened.

3. Results and achievements made, with indicators if available

The civil rescue organizations were mostly involved in the case of floods in Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén County in May 2010, and red sludge disaster in October 2010. Their special skills knowledge and equipments are essential in the field of disaster management. In 2010 they played important role 34 times, all together with 172 people. Their primary tasks are the rescue of the life and property of the citizens, the public awareness, as well as the technical rescue operations during the recovery works.

In addition to the above there is a cooperation agreement between NDGDM and the Hungarian Civil Protection Association, which established “European Cooperation Forum of Voluntary Civil Protection Organizations” (European Cooperation Forum - ECF). In January 2010, an Organizing Committee was set up with the participation of the Austrian, Croatian, Slovak and Hungarian organizations, joined by the Swedish organization in June. The tasks of the Committee have been the mapping of the European voluntary civil protection organizations and their invitation to participate in the work of the Forum. At the meeting in

October 2010 they decided to invite the representatives of the governmental organizations to take part as observers at the conference relating to the Forum in April 2011.

The Inauguration Conference took place between 27-29 April 2011 in Budapest.

The establishment of the Forum and the Regional Partnership would encourage the establishment of voluntary civil protection organizations in the countries, where such organizations did not exist before, contributing to the implementation of the EU level strategic decisions in connection with disasters.

4. Major challenges and lessons in implementing the initiative or programme, and next steps planned

One of the major challenges is to develop unified command system regardless of local interests, which can use the existing capacities more efficiently, which leads to more efficient fire protection by the optimal planning of the forces and equipments and furthermore allows rationalization of the using funds.

Another major challenge is the administrative control over the fire services. In order to solve this problem, we initiated to transfer the professional municipal fire brigades from the authority of local governments to NDGDM.

Section 2. Hyogo Framework Priority for Action 2: Identify, assess and monitor disaster risks and enhance early warning

- 1. Name of initiative and programme:** *territorial information center (TIC) the public awareness and alert in case of emergency*
- 2. Description, objectives, main activities**

The TIC operates database and GIS system in order to manage emergencies, which is able to support the interventions of the professional municipal fire brigades. At the same time not only the information and alert of the professional organizations is reasonable, but the publication of rules of conduct through media too.

3. Results and achievements made, with indicators if available

A short message service (sms) notification system was established in Baranya County, which makes it possible to alert all of the mayors in the county at the same time, in case of emergency. The disaster management duty keeps daily contact with the duties of the partner organizations and the meteorological service. Thanks to the above system we are able to forward the necessary information directly to the addressees in a much faster and more reliable way.

The public media has also been involved in order to inform the population by issuing public notices immediately.

4. Major challenges and lessons in implementing the initiative or programme and next steps planned

This system proved the effectiveness of the direct and immediate information of the stakeholders. The further development of the system is under progress.

- 1. Name of initiative and programme:** *the inspectorate of the hazardous industrial plants.*
- 2. Description, objectives, main activities**

The main tasks are the surveillance of the hazardous industrial plants, the control and monitoring, and last but not least the operation of public awareness systems.

3. Results and achievements with indicators if available

The regional and local authorities prepare protection plan for the surroundings area of the upper tier hazardous industrial plants and public information leaflets in order to protect the population. In the surroundings of 13 of the 20 most exposed hazardous industrial plants already established the so called monitoring and public information (MoLaRi) system, in order to increase the safety of the population.

This system provides adequate base for time real-time implementation of the protection plans, this way it's possible to decrease the consequences of the possible serious accidents.

The red sludge disaster in October 2010 highlighted the fact that not only the upper and lower tier hazardous industrial plants can endanger the population, but the not-classified dangerous materials also can cause disasters with unpredictable consequences. Following the red sludge disaster in order to preserve the area, Complex Research and Planning Programme was set up, and inspectors obliged MAL Alumina Plant to immediately launch the program.

Based on their proposal a safety area was established and a new dam erected. And due to this industrial disaster comprehensive control and monitoring process has been started, and in parallel the review of the legislation has begun too

4. Major challenges and lessons in implementing the initiative or programme and next steps planned

This process pointed out that the Act of Disaster Management provides loophole for some of the hazardous industrial plants. In fact only over certain quantities of hazardous materials give the right for the authorities to control these plants.

Therefore it is reasonable to expand the supervisory rights of the NDGDM as industrial plants are concerned, which is above the current half of the lower tier level, specified in the SEVESO Directives.

1. Name of initiative and programme: *Monitoring and Public Alarm System (MoLaRi)*

2. Description, objectives, main activities

In order to reduce disasters and their risks, first we have to get acquainted with hazards and social, economic and environmental vulnerabilities that a country faces. The aim of the MoLaRi project is to build a people-centred early warning system for prevention and quick emergency response. The project focuses on major industrial accidents in the surroundings of hazardous industrial plants, where operational accidents would endanger the inhabitants. Realization of the Monitoring and Public Alarm System is in progress, during the period between 2006 and 2013.

3. Results and achievements with indicators if available

Between the time period of 2006 and 2013, 80 chemical and meteorological, 280 chemical-monitoring stations and 565 alarms have been set up around 20 hazardous industrial plants in 9 counties in order to assure public awareness. The System carries out continuous monitoring and measuring in the surroundings of hazardous industrial plants perceiving the concentration of poisonous and explodable gases. The data is forwarded automatically via the national centre to the 24 / 7 duty services of disaster management directorates of the counties and affected local governmental fire-brigades. After summarizing the data, in case of reaching critical level it launches electronic alarming and information mechanisms to inform the population immediately. The System uses up-to-date information and electronic devices. The fully accomplished System can support the decision-making process for participating emergency units (authorities, mayors etc.).

MoLaRi is an effective way to forward information to the public, so supporting disaster management. During the continuous development of the project decisions (to protect civilians in case of major industrial accidents) will become easier and quicker according to the external protection plans and emergency plans for settlements.

4. Implementation of the project and the way forward

Between 2006 and 2008, the first phase of the project was implemented, with setting up 90 monitoring stations in the surroundings of 5 hazardous industrial plants and 31 sirens in 7 settlements of Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén County. In 2007, 86 monitoring stations and 99 sirens in 12 settlements were set up in the surroundings of 4 hazardous industrial plants of Pest and Veszprém Counties. The System was extended to Csongrád, Fejér and Tolna

counties as well by 2008. In Komárom-Esztergom County the deployment of the System is in progress.

We have successfully completed a pilot project setting the communication of MoLaRi to TETRA (EDR) in 2010. In 2011 we have started deployment of the System in Budapest. It was a great challenge to link the affected plants and settlements, considering the technical administrative problems of implementing the monitoring system, as well as the alarm system. We are seeking financial support to extend the system to other hazardous industrial plants after the project finishes in 2013.

Section 3. Hyogo Framework Priority for Action 3: Use knowledge, innovation and education to build a culture of safety and resilience at all levels

1. Name of initiative and programme: *the training of experts of civil protection and fire service. The Education Centre for Disaster Management.*

2. Description, objectives, main activities

Basic activity is training and further training of the experts of fire service and civil protection. The main purpose of the institution is to train experts with adequate skills, and practical knowledge in the field of freighting- and rescue operations, furthermore to be able to organize and control the civil protection and the disaster management activities in case of emergency.

3. Results and achievements made, with indicators if available

From 2008 we developed a new vocational competency and modular based system. This institute is a national examination centre in the field of freighting, fire protection, civil protection and disaster management vocations. The training is supported by taking advantages of opportunities provided by tenders, international relations, professional events and the system of exercises. The staff and the students may be involved as operation force in case of major disasters as it happened in case of floods and the red sludge disaster 2010.

4. Major challenges and lessons in implementing the initiative or programme and next steps planned

To establish and develop unified training and education system.

1. Name of initiative and program: *The preparation of administrative leaderships*

2. Description, objectives, main activities

The preparing system of defensive committee chairmen, mayors, regional administrative functions, management bodies and the notaries can be considered stable. The county directorates implement the preparing tasks.

3. Results and achievements made, with indicators if available

The Recommendation of the Training issued by the NDGDM in the past few years has not changed, in meantime some content and formal changes have been made. The knowledge takes into account the person's role in public life, capacity, and the required level of knowledge about the specifics of the vulnerability of the settlements.

Nationwide total of 3,629 administrative leaderships were prepared and all newly elected mayor attended the training in 2010. The material of the preparation is available on the website of NDGDM for further information. In 2011 we received a permission to start a new accredited training, in which a leadership-style, a management, a psychological, a professional knowledge and a practical implementation of tasks is possible.

The annually disaster management training for mayors of local governments are often connected with civil protection exercises. The preparations for notaries are organized in framework of the County Notary Meeting.

4. Major challenges and lessons in implementing the initiative or programme and next steps planned

To start-up the new accredited training system

1. Name of initiative and program: *Disaster management training courses for teachers*

2. Description, objectives, main activities

Aim of the program is to enhance the awareness of teachers to disaster risk reduction and to give them adequate information for preparing effectively their students.

There are two parts of the program: One is the forty-hour accredited disaster management refreshing training course, where teachers may obtain instruction of disaster management and teaching methodology, in addition, they can gain insight into related areas such as environment protection, consumer protection, energy security, first aid and panic treatment. These awareness courses are organized twice a year (in spring and autumn), and teachers may apply for them voluntarily. The lecturers are professional disaster managers and experts of the related professions. The other part of the program is the one-day long training in local schools. They are carried out by the heads of the local civil protection branches once a year. This is a permanent project, which covers national level.

3. Results and achievements made, with indicators if available

Between 2003 and 2010, 559 teachers took part on disaster management training (305 persons from the capital and 254 persons from the countries).

4. Major challenges and lessons in implementing the initiative or programme and next steps planned

To encourage teachers to actively take part in trainings.

1. Name of initiative and program: *To prepare schoolchildren and the youth for disaster events*

2. Description, objectives, main activities

The disaster management education of students is built on the teacher-training.

3. Results and achievements made, with indicators if available

NDGDM announces the national disaster management youth team-competition every year for the 10-18 year old members in the circle of primary and secondary schools, associations, organizations, clubs. Each team consists of five schoolboys/girls. The preparing of the youth is carried out by the heads of the local civil protection branches during the school year in the schools, on study circles. The competitions are organized on local, on regional and national level by the professional disaster management with the Hungarian Civil Protection Association. Objective of the program is to reach children and youth with information and integrate such kind of project into school activities for learning how to reduce the effects of hazards. Students give an account of their knowledge acquired during the year in disaster reduction, self-rescue and rescue of fellows, about their cleverness and physical preparedness in theory and practice according to age characteristics. These tournaments have a great motivational power, involving nearly six thousand pupils and students nationwide each year in the preparation.

The aim is to involve more children and youth to the competitions and to expand it on international level inviting teams from the border countries. To update the information brochures continuously

4. Major challenges and lessons in implementing the initiative or programme and next steps planned

We have to update the training materials continuously.

- 1. Name of initiative and program:** *To prepare the population*
- 2. Description, objectives, main activities**

The preparing of the population was carried out regarding to local and regional characteristics, damages and to solving problems in the best way in disaster events.

3. Results and achievements made, with indicators if available

The most effective method for several years is to inform the population by city teletext, websites and newspapers. Anybody could be informed about local civil protection events, like exercises, competitions, exhibitions etc. In order to improve the awareness of the population preparing materials, leaflets, calendars, flyers are issued by the local professional civil protection branches and the Hungarian Civil Protection Association. The expected result of well-functioning public awareness is the increase of the efficiency of prevention, response and damage elimination.

4. Major challenges and lessons in implementing the initiative or programme and next steps planned

To elaborate a system to inform the population, which suits the developing information communication system's requirements?

- 1. Name of initiative and programme:** *Development of the new disaster risk awareness website section*
- 2. Description, objectives, main activities**

For the minimizing of risks, it is very important for people to be well informed and motivated in disaster prevention and management. NDGDM developed an official website in respect of the preparedness to disasters (www.katasztrofavedelem.hu). This website provides easily understandable information on disaster protection options. Important items are on the website the information for inhabitants and local governments, like introduction the types of disasters, the possibility of prevention, rules of conducts in case of emergency and the measures of reconstruction. Young people and teachers may have further news of training for teachers, youth competitions, any other related events and publications.

3. Results and achievements made, with indicators if available

On the opening site of the website basic information with emergencies and appropriate behaviors to be followed in such situations can be found. Sub-menus of the website contain preparing materials for various groups of the society. Besides collecting the basic knowledge

about emergencies, aim of the website is also to be a contact point with the population in the country.

4. Major challenges and lessons in implementing the initiative or programme and next steps planned

Considering next steps of the programme, the website is being developed continuously in order to gain an updated, interactive information web surface.

Section 4. Hyogo Framework Priority for Action 4: Reduce the underlying risk factors

- 1. Name of initiative and programme:** *Reducing flood and inland water losses*
- 2. Description, objectives, main activities**

In May and June 2010, due to the precipitation fallen in the catchment areas of Hungarian rivers and streams, and in the settlements locally, and the extreme weather conditions in most of Hungary, huge damages occurred across the country, mainly in Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén County, in the vicinity of Felsőzsolca.

During the flood emergency, the professional disaster management bodies carried out effective protection operations involving the Governmental Coordination Committee (GCC) and its working groups, and other organizations participating in disaster management, directed by the Government. A great emphasis was laid on the protection of the population, the organization and implementation of its evacuation and displacement. In connection with the flood incidents a total of 5,511 citizens were obliged to fulfill civil protection duties.

As a result of the floods, a total of 266 proprietors were entitled to state compensation in 49 settlements of 8 counties. The municipalities signed 270 financial aid agreements with the victims.

3. Results and achievements made, with indicators if available

Seventy-one percent of all residential buildings affected were not insured. In the case of persons with damaged buildings, choosing to have 81 new homes built for them, the construction works ended by the end of last year. 185 sales contracts were signed, four of them were pending at the end of the year in Felsőzsolca. 180 newly built homes were occupied by their new owners.

4. Major challenges and lessons in implementing the initiative or programme and next steps planned

Major challenge is the diversification of the communities, the difference between the short-term and long-term interests. Convincing local government and land / house owners is an important step for legislation and implementation. In order to achieve this goal the ISDR National Platform could give support as well.

- 1. Name of initiative and programme:** *Building out the KIT (Crisis Intervention Teams) system in Hungary*
- 2. Description, objectives, main activities**

Aim of the project was to strengthen human capacity for the post-management of disasters. During the measurements, taken after natural or industrial disaster, mass accidents, or for their prevention, psycho-social assistance teams need to be activated for the treatment of the endangered community, victims, and relatives and for the intervening authorities in order to avoid further damages in (mental) health, caused by negative experiences of the occurred event.

3. Results and achievements made, with indicators if available

Since 2006 these crises intervention teams have been operating successfully even on county level too. With the Hungarian implementation of the KIT system, we fully meet the

EU requirements by preparing the population to disasters, and in case of a disaster – as an element of our rehabilitation activities – crisis-psychological treatment of the affected population and participants is successful.

4. Major challenges and lessons in implementing the initiative or programme and next steps planned

A future step of the extending of the KIT system in the whole country will be the forwarding of the knowledge of already trained Hungarian KIT members to local volunteers. After the Hungarian system is fully built out, we will be ready to train neighboring and partner countries, which do not have KIT units yet.

1. Name of initiative and programme: *The protection against the red sludge disaster and the recovery.*

2. Description, objectives, main activities

On 4 October, Hungary's largest ever industrial disaster happened, when the western dyke of cassette X of the red slurry (sludge) reservoir, belonging to the Ajka Alumina Plant of the Hungarian Aluminium Plc. (MAL Plc.), a privately held company, breached. As a consequence, 800,000 to 1,000,000 cubic meters of red sludge and the mixture of alkaline water inundated, through the Torna Creek, the deeper parts of the settlements of Kolontár, Devecser and Somlóvásárhely. 10 residents were killed, 286 people were treated by health authorities, of whom 120 persons were hospitalized. 275 properties in Devecser, 51 in Kolontár, 38 in Somlóvásárhely were damaged. Four-fifths of the damaged buildings had to be demolished. The number of victims suffering damages was 731. The red sludge flooded 1,017 hectares of agricultural land.

3. Results and achievements made, with indicators if available

In the beginning of December 2010 a Government Health Centre was opened in Devecser in order to provide health support to inhabitants in connection with the possible effects of the red sludge disaster.

The safety of the dams of the red sludge reservoirs has been revised, the necessary reinforcement are in progress. Thanks to the automatic neutralizing system no more alkaline liquid can get from the red sludge affected area into the surface waters. The transfer of wastes is continuously going on from the red sludge affected area back to the reservoirs. The MAL LTD. Operates under state control, it contributing to cover the costs safety and the mitigation of losses, it maintaining several thousands of jobs in the Ajka region.

111 grant agreements have already been concluded for the purchase of new rebuilt real estates, 122 for the purchase not new rebuilt real estates and 66 people were compensated in cash.

4. Major challenges and lessons in implementing the initiative or programme and next steps planned

One of the major challenges is the liability insurance system of the hazardous industrial plants, because in the case of red sludge disaster the losses in human lives, health and properties were much higher than the amount of the insurance of the MAL Plc.

Ever since the population is continuously informed on the health impacts of the red sludge, as well as on the current situation of recovery.

Section 5. Hyogo Framework Priority for Action 5: Strengthen disaster preparedness for effective response

1. Name of initiative and programme: *the training of the intervening staff for managing complex emergency situations*

2. Description, objectives, main activities

In the frame of 2008-2009 EU project, in May 2009 „EU-HUNEX DECATHLON 2009” international complex emergency management exercise was held.

3. Results and achievements made, with indicators if available

The exercise focused on the aspects of cooperation under the Community Civil Protection Mechanism, with the overall objective to train and improve existing procedures for alerting, mobilizing and dispatching civil protection assistance intervention and expert teams in case of disasters.

The scenario based on an earthquake, which caused severe damages and also affected the critical infrastructure elements. The participants of the exercise in accordance with INSARAG Guidelines carried out the search of the injured people, the temporary recovery of the damages in the critical infrastructure, localization fires, the alert of the endangered population, the information on the emergency and last but not least the evacuation and supply the endangered population.

4. Major challenges and lessons in implementing the initiative or programme and next steps planned

In the future more focus should be given to the joint coordination of national and international forces. Foreign language knowledge of the respective staff should be strengthened as well.

1. Name of initiative and programme: *integrated early warning system for Middle Europe in order to decrease the risks of man-made and natural disasters.*

2. Description, objectives, main activities

The project aims at further develop INCA software, which is able to prepare high resolution weather forecast up to even 1 km², involving the meteorological services of Central European countries between April 2010 and September 2013.

3. Results and achievements made, with indicators if available

The project partners (Austria, Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Slovakia, Poland, Italy and Slovenia) set up international working groups in cooperation with those organizations which use these forecast in the field of water management, civil protection and transport safety.

4. Major challenges and lessons in implementing the initiative or programme and next steps planned

The most significant result of the project will be the establishment of a web portal, which provides free, real time, nowcasting information over the whole Central Europe. This way the project contributes to the safety of the total central European population.

- 1. Name of initiative and programme:** *extension of the complex disaster management information system in the River Dráva region*
- 2. Description, objectives, main activities**

As a continuation of „DRAVIS” project in the frame of the „Hungarian-Croatian IPA Cross Border Cooperation Programme 2007-2013”, DRAVIS 2 project will be realized within 16 months until 31 July 2011.

3. Results and achievements made, with indicators if available

One of the results is more effective disaster management in River Dráva region. There is possibility for the development of significant GIS and for the implementation of joint exercises for the affected Hungarian and Croatian disaster management organizations. Furthermore an advanced Web-interface information exchange system was developed, which can provide to request assistance from neighboring disaster management organizations in case of emergency.

4. Major challenges and lessons in implementing the initiative or programme and next steps planned

The major challenge is that the multi-country partners use different national information communication systems.